

<b>Green-Rainbow Races/Candidates</b>	<b>Prec. 1</b>	<b>Prec. 2</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Presidential Preference</b>			
Kent Mesplay	0	0	0
Jill Stein	1	2	3
Harley Mikkelsen	0	0	0
No Preference	0	0	0
Blanks	0	0	0
<b>State Committee Man</b>			
Blanks	1	2	3
<b>State Committee Woman</b>			
Blanks	1	2	3
<b>Town Committee</b>			
Blanks	10	20	30

#### ELECTION WORKERS

##### Warden

Philip T. Detsch

##### Deputy Warden

Edward R. Perry, Jr.

##### Clerk

Pamela G. Gjestebj

##### Ballot Box

Mary Cutler

Robert Cutler

##### Checkers & Ballot Counters

Josephine Crowell

Alice Cushing

Ann Deluty

Lisa Lavina

Joanne C. Newman

Kathleen O'Brien

Kate Ogle

Susan Pauley

Laura Reiner

Betty Sauta

Tammy Van Buren

Barbara Wolfenden

#### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 7, 2012

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of April 20, 2012, posted by the Constable on April 26, 2012, the annual town meeting was opened at 7:06 p.m. in Hugh Mill Auditorium a Hale School by Moderator David Walrath.

The meeting rose for the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag* led by Mr. Walrath. Town officials were introduced: Selectmen, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Town Counsel, Town Administrator, Selectmen's and Administrative Assistant, Finance Committee, Capital Planning Committee and others. Several non-voters who may be heard were approved. Deputy Gary Horowitz and Assistant Moderator Elizabeth Painter were unanimously approved.

Moderator Walrath recognized the recent passing of former Selectman John Clayton, Jr. and former Selectman Frank Schmelzer.

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously that the reading of the warrant and return of the constable thereon be waived but made a part of the record of this meeting, and that the Moderator be permitted to refer to each article by subject matter instead of reading each article in its entirety.

#### **ARTICLE 1. Reports of Selectmen and Other Officers and Committees**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted unanimously that the reports of the Selectmen and other Officers and Committees of the Town be accepted as printed in the 2011 Annual Town Report.

#### **ARTICLE 2. Reports of Special Committees**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted unanimously that the reports of the special committees be accepted as printed in the 2011 Annual Town Report.

At this point, Finance Committeeman Peter McManus presented a financial summary. The proposed Fiscal 2013 budget to be voted upon at this meeting will not require a Proposition 2-1/2 override. A \$1.3 million surplus allows flexibility. Debt service will increase next year due to the Center School project. Capital requests were reviewed, \$200,000 of which will be funded from free cash. Future capital projects will involve reuse of Pompositticut School and expansion of the Fire Station and Randall Library.

#### **ARTICLE 3. Wage and Salary Schedules for Fiscal Year 2013**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted unanimously to amend Article 11 of the General Bylaws of the Town, Personnel Administration, by deleting from Section 20.h. the existing salary Schedules A, B, C, D and E, and inserting in place thereof new Schedules A, B, C, D and E, as printed in the warrant.

### **TOWN OF STOW WAGE & SALARY SCHEDULES *Effective July 1, 2012 (3%)***

#### **SCHEDULE A ANNUAL RATE POSITIONS**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Police Chief	76,442	79,223	83,393	90,340	102,188
Police Lieutenant	69,168	74,387	78,303	82,217	84,828
Supt. of Streets	68,397	72,672	76,949	81,220	85,500
Fire Chief	67,841	70,556	74,628	81,416	88,195
Town Accountant	62,749	66,647	70,574	74,498	78,424
Treasurer-Collector	53,967	57,342	60,715	64,086	67,460
Building Inspector	52,831	56,131	59,432	62,735	66,039
Library Director	50,273	53,416	56,556	59,704	62,842
Town Clerk	45,178	47,861	50,678	53,489	56,307

**SCHEDULE B**  
**HOURLY RATE POSITIONS**

**GROUP A**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Parks & Commons Worker	11.49	12.45	13.51	14.51	15.50
Cemetery Worker	11.49	12.45	13.51	14.51	15.50
Custodian	11.49	12.45	13.51	14.51	15.50

**GROUP B**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Asst. Town Clerk	16.92	18.23	19.59	21.22	22.80
Capital Program Comm. Secretary	13.05	14.00	15.06	16.34	17.54

**GROUP C**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Board of Appeals Secretary	17.81	19.41	20.92	22.54	24.06
Town Secretary	14.00	15.29	16.48	17.75	18.97
Highway/Tree/Grounds Worker	14.00	15.29	16.48	17.75	18.97

**GROUP D**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Highway/Tree Grounds Driver-Laborer	17.37	18.47	19.55	20.61	21.67

**GROUP E**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Highway Dept. Equipment Operator	18.96	20.14	21.31	22.52	23.67
Tree Worker (Moth)	18.96	20.14	21.31	22.52	23.67
Maintenance Person	18.96	20.14	21.31	22.52	23.67

**GROUP F**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Highway Dept. Mechanic	20.10	21.26	22.63	23.89	25.10
Crew Chief	20.90	22.12	23.54	24.82	26.12

**GROUP G**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Minimum</u></b>	<b><u>Step 1</u></b>	<b><u>Step 2</u></b>	<b><u>Step 3</u></b>	<b><u>Maximum</u></b>
Asst. Supt. of Streets	24.56	26.11	27.63	29.16	30.69
Highway Dept. Foreman	22.31	23.72	25.09	26.50	27.86

**SCHEDULE C**  
**SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID ANNUALLY**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
Registrar of Voters	135.00
Assistant Registrar of Voters	270.00
Animal Control Officer	15,944.00
Animal Inspector	3,620.00
Director of Summerthing	2,709.00
Beach Director	5,838.00
Veterans' Agent	1,424.00
Council on Aging Secretary	400.00
Tree Warden	6,383.00
Health Agent	20,035.00
Cemetery Superintendent	42,382.00

**SCHEDULE D**  
**SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID HOURLY**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Hourly Rate</u></b>
Election Warden	10.32
Election Clerk	10.32
Election Teller	9.14
Election Clerical Assistance	9.14
Lifeguard	11.34
Lifeguard (W.S.I.)	13.40
Beach Checker	9.14
Summerthing Assistant	9.14
Street Lister	9.86
Street Listing Clerk	9.14

Street Numberer	9.14
Per Diem Firefighter (call)	14.33
Apprentice Firefighter (call)	13.88
Firefighter (call)	15.87
Emergency Medical Technician (call)	15.87
Firefighter/EMT (call)	16.59
EMT -w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	17.33
Firefighter/EMT - w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	18.05
Officers - Fire or Medical (call)	19.51
Police Officer - part-time	22.19
Police Matron	19.58
Auxiliary Police Officer	14.48
Dispatcher - part-time	18.45
Town Engineer	30.69

**SCHEDULE E**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL SINGLE RATES**

<b><u>Position Title</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>
Deputy Fire Chief (call)	979.00
Fire Engineer	849.00
Fire Captain (call)	651.00
Fire Lieutenant (call)	522.00
Fire Medical Officer	391.00
EMS Quartermaster	262.00
EMS Schedule Coordinator	197.00
EMS Assistant Coordinator	327.00
EMS Records Coordinator	391.00

**ARTICLE 4. General Budget for Fiscal Year 2013**

Selectman Laura Spear moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,780,487.00, as recommended by the Town Administrator and Selectmen for Items 1 through 75 inclusive, as printed in the warrant under the column entitled "*FY2013 Budget Town Admin/Selectmen Recommended*", each item to be considered a separate appropriation for the purposes designated and the same to be expended only for such purpose.

Moderator Walrath read off each group of line items. Several questions were asked and answered. Line item 3 Administrative Assistant Salary now covers two positions so becomes "Salaries". Item 47 Gasoline & Diesel Fuel Expense was increased as the current appropriation will require a Reserve Fund transfer.

When put to a vote, the general budget for FY2013 at \$21,780,487.00, as printed in the warrant, was unanimously approved.

**General Government**

1	Moderator Salary	\$ 39.00
2	Moderator Expenses	45.00

3	Selectmen Administrative Assistant Salaries	62,392.00
4	Selectmen Expenses	8,585.00
5	Town Administrator Salary	113,856.00
6	Town Administrator Expenses	500.00
7	Town Building Clerical Wages	0.00
8	Finance Committee Wages	3,946.00
9	Finance Committee Expenses	700.00
10	Town Accountant Salary	48,632.00
11	Town Accountant Clerk Salary	0.00
12	Town Accountant Expenses	4,025.00
13	Principal Assessor Salary	65,768.00
14	Assessors' Clerical Wages	68,979.00
15	Assessors' Expenses	7,000.00
16	Treasurer-Collector Salary	65,761.00
17	Treasurer-Collector Clerical Wages	49,970.00
18	Treasurer-Collector Expenses	38,800.00
19	Information Technology Clerical Wages	24,866.00
20	Information Technology Expenses	68,432.00
21	Town Clerk Salary	56,308.00
22	Town Clerk Other Wages	35,781.00
23	Town Clerk Expenses	16,291.00
24	Conservation Commission Clerical Wages	73,600.00
25	Conservation Commission Expenses	4,280.00
26	Planning Board Clerical Wages	114,495.00
27	Planning Board Expenses	5,210.00
28	Board of Appeals Clerical Wages	7,237.00
29	Board of Appeals Expenses	2,890.00
30	Municipal Buildings & Property Wages	28,619.00
31	Municipal Buildings & Property Expenses	62,930.00
32	Town Reports Expenses	8,000.00
	General Government Total	\$1,047,937.00

Public Safety

33	Police Chief Salary	\$ 100,538.00
34	Police & Dispatch Wages	1,107,746.00
35	Police & Dispatch Expenses	93,500.00
36	Fire Chief Salary	81,416.00
37	Fire and EMS Wages	499,101.00
38	Fire and EMS Expenses	92,101.00
39	Building Inspector Salary	66,039.00
40	Building Department Clerical Wages	38,663.00
41	Building Department Expenses	3,950.00
	Public Safety Total	\$ 2,083,054.00

Public Works and Facilities

42	Supt. of Streets Salary	\$ 85,500.00
43	Highway & Grounds Wages	476,184.00
44	Highway & Grounds Expenses	118,825.00
45	Snow & Ice Removal Expense	150,000.00
46	Municipal Lighting	13,000.00
47	Gasoline & Diesel Fuel Expense	110,000.00
48	Cemetery Salary & Wages	57,400.00
49	Cemetery Expenses	6,475.00
	<b>Public Works and Facilities Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,017,384.00</b>

Human Services

50	Health Agent Wages	\$ 20,035.00
51	Health Department Wages	76,183.00
52	Health Department Expenses	8,275.00
53	Council on Aging Executive Director Salary	55,890.00
54	Council on Aging Wages	89,523.00
55	Council on Aging Expenses	12,736.00
56	Veterans' Agent Salary	1,873.00
57	Veterans' Agent Expenses	200.00
	<b>Human Services Total</b>	<b>\$ 264,715.00</b>

Culture and Recreation

58	Library Director Salary	\$ 50,273.00
59	Library Wages	102,325.00
60	Library Expenses	60,631.00
61	Recreation Wages	49,820.00
62	Recreation Expenses	23,550.00
63	Lake Boon Commission Wages	2,775.00
64	Lake Boon Commission Expenses	1,200.00
65	Historical Commission Expenses	\$ 525.00
66	Memorial Day Expenses	950.00
67	Lighting of Clock Expenses	100.00
	<b>Culture and Recreation Total</b>	<b>\$ 292,149.00</b>

Town-Wide Expenses

68	Group Insurance	\$ 705,600.00
69	Insurance and Bonds	135,000.00
70	Telephone	30,842.00
	<b>Town-Wide Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$ 871,442.00</b>

Education

71	Nashoba Regional School District Assessment	\$13,726,429.00
72	Minuteman Voc-Tech Assessment	622,982.00
	Education Total	\$14,349,411.00

Debt Service

73	Maturing Principal – Long-Term Debt	\$ 1,075,000.00
74	Interest, Long-Term Debt - Bonds	779,395.00
75	Interest, Temporary Loans - Revenue	0.00
	Debt Service Total	\$ 1,854,395.00

TOTAL GENERALBUDGET.....\$21,780,487.00

**ARTICLE 5. Minuteman Regional School District Amended Assessment for FY2012**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash an additional sum of money in the amount of \$30,397 to defray the necessary expenses of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District (the "District") for the District's 2012 fiscal year, bringing the total appropriation from the Town for the District's 2012 fiscal year to \$777,378.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted to take action on Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31, as said motions are printed in the Consent Calendar, a copy of which has been provided to the voters at this meeting, without debate on any such articles, and provided that upon the request of any voter at this meeting made before the vote is taken on this motion, an article shall be dropped from the Consent Calendar and shall be acted upon in the ordinary course and order of business at this town meeting.

Articles 13 and 24 were dropped from the Consent Calendar at the request of voters. The Finance Committee recommended approval of the articles within the Consent Calendar.

**ARTICLE 6. Reserve Fund**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for a Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

**ARTICLE 7. Audit of Financial Records**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,800 for a town financial audit.

**ARTICLE 8. Revolving Fund for Inspection Fees**

Voted to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, a revolving fund pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 for FY2013, to which shall be credited all permitting fees for wire, gas, plumbing and fire alarm permits and for weights and measures sealing, to a limit of \$40,000.00 for FY2013, to be expended by the Selectmen without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of fees to the inspectors administering such permits and reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Town.



**ARTICLE 9. Revolving Fund for Advanced Life Support Services**

Voted to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, the establishment of a revolving fund pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 for FY2013, to which shall be credited all fees received for advanced life support services provided by the Town of Stow, to a limit of \$40,000.00 for FY2013, to be expended by the Fire Department without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of all costs associated with providing advanced life support ambulance services.

**ARTICLE 10. Transfer to Conservation Fund – Land Maintenance**

Voted to appropriate and transfer from the Conservation Land Maintenance Account to the Conservation Fund the sum of \$1,900 to be expended by the Conservation Commission.

**ARTICLE 11. Transfer from Wetlands Protection Fund**

Voted to appropriate and transfer from the Wetlands Protection Fund the sum of \$2,065 as additional appropriation to the Conservation Commission, to be expended by the Conservation Commission in performing its duties under the Wetlands Protection Act.

**ARTICLE 12. Update of Property Valuations**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,190, to be added to the balance previously appropriated for the purpose of updating property valuations in the town to full and fair cash value, to be expended by the Assessors.

**ARTICLE 14. Highway Department**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sums of money for Highway Department purposes as set forth in the schedule below:

- |                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. For the Road Machinery Account | \$43,072.00 |
| 2. For Repairs on Private Ways    | \$15,000.00 |

**ARTICLE 15. Highway Road Construction**

Voted to appropriate and borrow the sum of \$284,358 from FY2013 apportionment for construction, reconstruction and/or improvements to town roads, as requested by the Board of Selectmen, to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

**ARTICLE 16. Federal Safe Drinking Water Act**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000 to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of satisfying the compliance requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, in accordance with State regulations, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health.

**ARTICLE 17. Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000, to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing for household hazardous waste collection.

**ARTICLE 18. Public Health Nurse**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000, to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health, for the purpose of providing home care services, public health nursing services and communicable disease follow-up to Stow residents.

**ARTICLE 19. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000, to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health, for the purpose of renting a container and disposing of solid waste, which has been dumped on town land and roadsides.

**ARTICLE 20. Medical Reserve Corps Expenses**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health, for the purpose of providing for equipment and operating expenses for the Stow Medical Reserve Corps.

**ARTICLE 21. Construction and Maintenance of Water Holes for Firefighting**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief for the purpose of constructing and maintaining water holes and hydrants to support firefighting operations.

**ARTICLE 22. Stow Cultural Council**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500, to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriations, to produce cultural activities and programming in Stow, including \$2,000 of these funds to be used to support Springfest activities.

**ARTICLE 23. Employee Educational Incentive Program**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$92,000, to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator, for funding the Town's employee educational incentive program.

**ARTICLE 25. Police Officer and Firefighter Medical Payments**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated, in anticipation of possible claims presented to the Town under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 41, Section 100, for the payment of medical and other allowable expenses incurred by police officers or firefighters injured in the performance of and within the scope of duty.

**ARTICLE 26. Weights and Measures Testing**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,250, to be added to any balance remaining from a previous appropriation, for the purpose of funding the Town's weights and measures testing.

**ARTICLE 27. SwiftReach 911 Notification System**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000, to be expended under the direction of the Chief of Police, for the purpose of paying for a town-wide telephone emergency notification system known as SwiftReach Networks.

**ARTICLE 28. Lake Boon Water Quality Remediation**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be expended under the direction of the Lake Boon Commission for the purpose of weed control.

**ARTICLE 29. Veterans' Benefits**

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,400, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Veterans' Services Officer to provide services for Stow veterans.

### **ARTICLE 30. Community Preservation Expenses**

Voted to appropriate from Fiscal Year 2013 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues the sum of \$31,000 to be expended for wages and expenses associated with the creation, implementation and maintenance of Community Preservation programs, in accordance with the provision of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to office supplies, clerical assistance, property surveys, appraisals, attorney's fees and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2013, in accordance with a budget to be prepared for the Town Administrator.

### **ARTICLE 31. Community Preservation Reserves**

Voted to reserve for later appropriation monies from the Community Preservation Fund Balance collected from both the Community Preservation Act Surcharge and the State Trust Fund Distribution and collected from Fiscal Year 2013 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues, for 10-percent allocation to reserve accounts in accordance with the provision of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, for the undertaking of Community Preservation projects.

- |                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Preservation of Historic Resources | \$63,000 |
| 2. Preservation of Open Spaces        | \$63,000 |
| 3. Affordable Housing                 | \$63,000 |

=====End of Consent Calendar=====

### **ARTICLE 13. Town Records Binding and Repair**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200 to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of binding and repairing town records in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 66, Section 9, to be expended by the Town Clerk.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

### **ARTICLE 24. Legal Services**

On motion of Selectman Kern, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to any balance remaining from any previous appropriation for the purpose of funding the Town's general legal account.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

### **ARTICLE 32. Capital Requests**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted by majority to discuss the items of this article individually and vote upon each separately as to the amount to be appropriated for each item, as set forth in separate motions proposed.

#### **ARTICLE 32-1. Handrails for Hale School Auditorium**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted by majority to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for the installation of handrails in the upper sections of the Hale School auditorium.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

#### **ARTICLE 32-2. Town Hall Exterior Painting and Repairs**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$50,000 for exterior painting and repairs to the Town Hall.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 32-3. Cemetery Mowing Equipment**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,200 for mowing equipment for the Cemetery Department.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 32-4. Fire-Rescue Computer Network Upgrade**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted unanimously to **take no action** on this article. Fire Chief Michael McLaughlin explained that additional information is required.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor of no action.

**ARTICLE 32-5. Police/Fire Radio Tower**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,830 for the replacement cost of the Police and Fire radio tower not reimbursed by the Town's property insurance.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

The communication tower to be replaced was destroyed by the Halloween 2011 snowstorm. The 60-ft. tower attached to the Fire Station is temporarily replaced by a leased 110-ft. free-standing tower that serves both police and fire.

**ARTICLE 32-6. Highway Department Pick-Up Truck**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for a 3/4-ton pick-up truck for the Highway Department.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 32-7. Brush Chipper**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$60,000 for a brush chipper for the Highway Department.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 32-8. Large Format Scanner/Plotter/Copier**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 for a large format scanner/plotter/copier for the Planning Board.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 32-9. Police Cruiser**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted by majority to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000 for a new cruiser for the Police Department.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 32-10. Hale School Classroom Air Conditioning**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted by majority to appropriate and transfer from, Free Cash the sum of \$145,000 for air conditioning for the Hale School classrooms.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

#### **ARTICLE 32-11. Hale School Well Building Roof Repairs**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted unanimously to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$12,000 to repair the roof of the Hale School well building.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

#### **ARTICLE 33. Nashoba Regional High School Athletic Facilities**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted Yes 131 and No 87, with 218 votes hand counted, to approve the sum of \$2,210,000 indebtedness, authorized by a vote of the Nashoba Regional District School Committee on March 15, 2012, for the purpose of funding the upgrade and renovations to the athletic facilities at the Nashoba Regional High School.

The Selectmen, Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

Asst. School Supt. George King spoke of the current poor condition of the playing fields. Bolton and Lancaster town meetings have voted approval. Voters spoke both in favor and opposed.

Following the vote of approval, voters were reminded there will be a Proposition 2-1/2 debt exclusion question on the annual election ballot.

*Note: The Town voted on May 15, 2012 at the Annual Town Election to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2-1/2 the amounts required to pay the Town's apportioned share of the principal and interest on the indebtedness to be issued by the Nashoba Regional School District in order to finance the construction to upgrade and renovate the athletic facilities at the high school.*

At this point, Deputy Moderator Gary Horowitz assumed the gavel.

#### **ARTICLE 34. Historic Document Preservation Project, Part One**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$100,000, or any lesser sum, from the Community Preservation Fund Reserve for Historic Preservation purposes, to be expended under the direction of the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee, for the preservation of historic documents that are required to be kept in perpetuity.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

Town Clerk Linda Hathaway explained that preservation will include, among other permanent documents, vital records, annual reports, Selectmen meeting minutes, etc. The Community Preservation Committee voted on February 27, 2012 to support the motion.

#### **ARTICLE 35. Consultant for Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$7,200, or any lesser sum, from the Community Preservation Fund Reserve for Affordable Housing purposes, to be expended under the direction of the Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust, in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee, to engage the services of an affordable housing consultant to provide technical and administrative support relating to affordable housing issues. Principal tasks will be to facilitate implementation of Stow's Housing Production Plan, research and apply for affordable housing funding resources (e.g., grants and loans), and act as the liaison to various local and regional housing-related groups.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

Moderator David Walrath returned to the podium at this point.

**ARTICLE 36. Planning Board Engineering/Consulting and Master Plan Expenses**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Planning Board for Planning Board engineering/consulting services and master plan expenses.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 37. Purchase of Assisted Listening Devices**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be expended by the Town Clerk to purchase assisted listening devices for Town Building meeting rooms.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 38. Purchase of Thermal Imaging Camera**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500 to be expended by the Fire-Rescue Department to purchase a thermal imaging camera used to locate people and objects in fire-related calls to improve emergency fire and rescue operations.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 39. Purchase of Automated Electronic Defibrillators**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,700 to be expended by the Fire-Rescue Department to replace the outdated automated electronic defibrillators, used for serious cardiac-related medical calls, to improve emergency fire and rescue operations.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

**ARTICLE 40. Holiday Decorations and Lighting**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted by majority to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be expended by the Highway Department for the purpose of purchasing and installing holiday decorations and lights on municipal properties.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 41. Internet Access of Assessment Records**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,200 to be expended by the Assessors for the purpose of setting up on-line internet access to Stow's assessment data.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 42. Zoning Board of Appeals Legal Fund**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to be expended by the Zoning Board of Appeals for the purpose of funding the Board's legal expenses.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 43. Tax Title Foreclosure**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000, to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Treasurer-Collector for the purpose of funding tax title foreclosures and related Land Court expenses

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 44. Transfer from Harvard Acres Well Loan Receipts**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from MWPAT (Harvard Acres Wells) Receipts the sum of \$55,834 as additional appropriation to the Debt Service line item, to be expended by the Treasurer-Collector for the purpose of repayment of the MWPAT loan.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 45. Senior Tax Relief**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted unanimously to accept the provisions of Section 4 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986 as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and further to act under the aforesaid statutes to increase by 100 percent the amount of property tax exemption granted to persons who qualify for said exemption under clauses 17, 17C, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B and 41C of Section 5 of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws and Acts and amendments thereof or additions thereto, for FY2013.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 46. Syncarpha Solar, LLC Tax Agreement**

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted unanimously to ratify and authorize the Selectmen to execute a tax agreement with Syncarpha Solar, LLC (or a special purpose entity with Syncarpha Solar, LLC as its manager) pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H. The tax agreement establishes terms and conditions allowing for annual payments by Syncarpha Solar, LLC in lieu of personal property taxes on, or alternately, establishes a specific method of taxation of, the proposed solar energy system to be installed on a 20+/- acre parcel of land, parcel number 000R-4-28-1 located at Delaney Street, Stow, MA.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 47. Kearsarge Solar, LLC Tax Agreement**

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted unanimously to ratify and authorize the Selectmen to execute a tax agreement with Kearsarge Solar, LLC (or a special purpose entity with Kearsarge Solar, LLC as its manager) pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H. The tax agreement establishes terms and conditions allowing for annual payments by Kearsarge Solar, LLC in lieu of personal property taxes on, or alternately, establishes a specific method of taxation of, the proposed solar energy system to be installed on 12+/- acres of land located on three parcels in Stow, MA (R-7-35 on Boxboro Road, R-7-34 and R-7-30-7 both off Taylor Road)

The Finance Committee was in favor.

#### **ARTICLE 48. Crescent Farm Conservation Restriction Extinguishment**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to approve and once approved authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission to petition the General Court to approve the extinguishment of the Conservation Restriction imposed on "Parcel C", said "Parcel C" being a portion of a 26.1-acre subdivision shown on the plans entitled "Crescent Farms, Definitive Subdivision Plan in Stow, Massachusetts" and dated April, 1995, revised November 2, 1995 (consisting of three sheets), said Conservation Restriction recorded at the Middlesex Registry of Deeds at Book 26767, Page 184 (entitled "Conservation Restriction and Pedestrian Easement");

AND, once approved by the General Court, to authorize without any further action by the town of Stow or its employees, officers, boards, departments or commissions, the immediate transfer of said "Parcel C" to the Stow Conservation Commission, said land to be held and managed thereafter pursuant of G.L. c.40,s8C and as directed by Town Meeting as stated herein;

AND, thereafter, to grant to the Conservation Commission, in coordination with the Board of Selectmen and its designees, full authority and permission, subject only to relevant state and federal law and Town Meeting appropriation, to develop a public water supply together with appurtenant structures, transmission lines, systems and facilities to support said public water supply;

AND, thereafter, to grant to the Conservation Commission, in coordination with the Board of Selectmen and its designees, full authority and permission to negotiate a lease, license or other arrangement, including contracts with a third party or parties, to develop, distribute and manage a public water supply, in the best interests of the Town of Stow, on said "Parcel C";

AND, with the exception of the permission granted to develop a public water supply together with appurtenant structures, transmission lines, systems and facilities to support said public water supply, and consistent with G.L. c.40, s.8C, require that the Conservation Commission observe and comply with each of the conservation purposes imposed by the aforementioned Conservation Restriction found at pages 185 and 186 of Book 26767 as recorded at the Middlesex Registry of Deeds, that is, to prohibit:

1. Constructing or placing of any building, tennis court, landing strip, mobile home, swimming pool, fencing, asphalt or concrete pavement, billboard or other advertising display, antenna, utility pole, tower, conduit, line or other temporary or permanent structure or facility on, above or under "Parcel C";
2. Mining, excavating, dredging or removing from "Parcel C" of soil, loam, peat, gravel, sand, rock or other mineral resource or natural deposit;
3. Placing, filling, storing or dumping on "Parcel C" of soil, refuse, trash, vehicle bodies or parts, rubbish, debris, junk, waste or other substance or material whatsoever or the installation of underground storage tanks.
4. The subdivision of "Parcel C";
5. Activities detrimental to drainage, flood control, water conservation, erosion control, soil conservation;
6. The use of motorized vehicles, to include motorcycles, off-road vehicles, motorbikes and snowmobiles;
7. The use of chemical fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides unless such chemicals are determined by the Stow Conservation Commission to be necessary and non-injurious to the proper management of "Parcel C";
8. Trail use after dark; the creation of noise; or any other activity which could be a detriment to homeowners;
9. Any other use of "Parcel C" or activity which would materially impair significant conservation interests.



**ARTICLE 49. Transfer from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund**

On motion of Selectman Gary Bernklow, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Stabilization Fund.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

**ARTICLE 50. Balance the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget**

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted unanimously to **take no action** to use a sum of money from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer-Collector in reducing the tax rate (balancing the budget) for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.

**ARTICLE 51. Town Election**

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting until the Annual Election on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, commencing at 7:00 a.m. at the Hale Middle School Gymnasium in said Town of Stow and then and there to act on Article 51 for such election of officers and ballot question as listed in the warrant; and thereafter, at the close of the polls, to dissolve this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 p.m. to reconvene on May 15, 2012 at 7:00 a.m. for the Annual Election.

Checkers at the Door: Josephine Crowell, Mary Cutler, Robert Cutler, Carol Dudley, Elizabeth MacGilvra, Betty Sauta

Tellers: Marjorie Alessio, Alice Cushing, Stephen Dungan, Donald Hawkes, Stephen Jelinek, Jane Merrick, Joanne Newman, John O'Keefe, Edward Perry, Jr., Laura Reiner, Marcia Rising, Kathleen Sferra, Dwight Sipler, Robert Walrath

Timekeeper: Catherine Desmond

Number of Voters Checked: 246      Turnout Percentage: 5%      Number of Registered Voters: 4,768

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
MAY 15, 2012**

Pursuant to the Board of Selectmen's warrant of April 20, 2013, the Annual Town Election was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7 a.m.

After examining the ballot box in precinct 1 and 2, and finding both empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot boxes were locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, a total of twenty-nine absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were six spoiled ballots. There were no provisional ballots.

The polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. Total votes cast: 492 Turnout = 10.3%  
Registered Voters = 4768